KEVIN WISE

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT WESTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

CHRISTIAN POWELL,

Plaintiff,

- vs - Index Number 21-CV-00721

CITY OF JAMESTOWN,
CITY OF JAMESTOWN CLERK,
JAMESTOWN POLICE DEPARTMENT,
JAMESTOWN POLICE CHIEF TIMOTHY JACKSON,
COUNTY OF CHAUTAUQUA,
CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY SHERRIFF'S OFFICE,
CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY SHERRIFF JAMES B. QUATTRONE,
CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY UNDERSHERRIFF DARRYL W. BRALEY,
JOHN DOES 1-10, said names being fictitious
but intended to be any other individual/officers
involved in the within incident and employees
of the CITY OF JAMESTOWN and/or JAMESTOWN POLICE
DEPARTMENT in their individual and official
capacities,
and JOHN DOES 1-10, said names being fictitious

but intended to be any other individual/officers involved in the within incident and employees of the COUNTY OF CHAUTAUQUA and/or CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY SHERRIFF'S OFFICE in their individual and official capacities,

Defendants.

Examination Before Trial of KEVIN WISE,

taken pursuant to Federal Rules, via virtual teleconference, on August 16, 2023, commencing at 12:33 p.m., before PATRICK MCLAUGHLIN, Notary Public.

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3		, New York 14075 ng for the Plaintiff.
4		TION COUNSEL JAMESTOWN
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7		iliated Defendants.
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10	.0 Syracus	e, New York 13202 ng for the City of Jamestown
11		iliated Defendants.
12	.2	
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15	(STIPULATIONS:	Waive filing of
16	the transcript,	waive Oath of the Referee,
17	.7 reserve all obj	ections until trial, with
18	exception of ob	jections as to form.)
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          MR. RAIMONDO: Yes. The witness is Officer
   Kevin, K-E-V-I-N, Wise, W-I-S-E.
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          THE REPORTER: Any objection to the remote
4
   notarization?
5
          MR. ZACCAGNINO:
                            No.
 6
          MR. RAIMONDO: None from the city.
7
          MS. D'AGOSTINO: Reserve read and sign, yes,
8
   please.
9
   K E V I N W I S E, 201 East Second Street,
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   Jamestown, New York 14701, after being duly called
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   and sworn, testified as follows:
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          EXAMINATION BY MR. ZACCAGNINO:
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16
          Q.
               Hi, Officer. I am Blake Zaccagnino.
   represent Christian Powell. He was involved in a
17
18
   few different incidents that took place back in
   December of 2020 involving the Jamestown police.
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          The first thing I wanted to ask you was:
   What do you prefer I call you? Officer? Is that
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22
   okay or is there anything else?
23
          Α.
               Yeah.
                       That's fine.
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Q. Okay. Before we get started, I just want to go over some quick rules. You know, the main thing is I just want to make sure you understand my questions because sometimes I'm confusing or I -- you know, I'll get ahead of myself.

So just let me know if -- you know, if you don't understand what I'm asking you. And then it's -- it's really hard on Zoom because there's a slight delay.

So if we could just do our best to have one person talking at a time, that would be great.

A. Okay.

Q. Is that okay? Perfect.

I have -- I have a bunch of questions for you at the beginning about your education and your background and training.

So you know, I can refer you to those -- I can refer you to the time frames that I'm interested in for that part of it, but if I ask you about, you know, a policy and procedure or, you know, how things were at a particular time, I'm mainly interested in how things were in December of

2020, if that's okay.

- A. Okay.
- Q. So I was wondering if you could just briefly take us through your education and training, maybe from high school until now. Just the high points. It doesn't have to be anything extensive.
- A. Okay. I graduated from Faulkner High School. From there, I went -- I got my associate's degree at Jamestown Community College, and then I got my bachelor's degree out at SUNY Fredonia.

After that, I went into the Chautauqua Sheriff's Academy in 2016 and graduated in 2017.

- Q. And what jobs have you had, maybe from the time that you got out of the academy until now?
- A. Out of the academy, I got hired at the Town of Ellicott Police Department as a police officer. I worked there until September of 2018, when I got hired at Jamestown Police Department as a police officer, and that's where I've been since.
- Q. And -- oh. So you've -- you've been at Jamestown ever since?
 - A. Correct.

- Q. Can you just briefly take us through your day-to-day activities within the different jobs as a police officer that you've had?
- A. So we patrol. We work the -- we work the city jail. We help out with community-service details, traffic, traffic control.
- Q. And back in December of 2020, what was your -- what was your official position with the City of Jamestown? Like, what was the job title?
 - A. Police officer.

- Q. And what was your day-to-day activities with Jamestown? Were you mainly on patrol or were you in the jail setting or a combination of both?
- A. Yeah. Primarily, we're on patrol, but we have a rotation where whoever hasn't worked the jail in the longest period of time, they would be the first one up to work the jail. So it's, like, once every week or two that we work a jail shift.
- Q. And what's involved in the working the jail shift? Like, what are the daily activities if you're assigned on the jail shift?
- A. Well, first, you would -- you would check -- check the jail at the beginning of the

shift to make sure there's no contraband, any weapons or anything, anything wrong with any of the cells.

And your duty in there would be to, you know, watch -- watch over the -- the prisoners, make sure they're safe, healthy, that they don't need anything.

We -- we would also have, like -- we'd perform checks every half hour and -- and complete bookings with finger and photos as well as obtaining property from inmates as they are coming into the jail.

And then we have the suicide screenings and -- and constant-watch program where those type -- people that fall under those categories would be placed up front where we could observe them for the duration of the time they're in the jail so they can't harm themselves.

Q. And you mentioned the checks or the different rounds that you would do where you're checking in on inmates. Can you describe that process at all or any sort of policy and procedure that's followed for that?

A. So at least every half hour, you have to perform a check. You have a fob with -- there's little fob -- fobs on the wall that we have to hit, make sure it beeps.

And what you would do is you'd go to each wing where the prisoners are located, check on them, make sure that they're okay, they don't need anything.

And then after you check, what you would do is you document what each inmate is currently doing so, that way, we can keep a log of it.

- Q. And you mentioned the log. Is that -is that a paper log or is it kept electronically?
 - A. It's a paper log.
- Q. And it generally just would notate the time of the check and then what -- and then what the officer observed in the check?
- A. Yeah. It lists the time of the check, the location of the inmate, and then what their current status is; if they're sleeping, if they're awake, if they're reading, whatever they're doing.
- Q. And you mentioned the suicide screening --

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A. Yes.

 ${f Q.}$ -- and inmates that might fall into that category.

Can you just describe what that is and what type of inmate would fall within that category?

A. So we have -- some inmates will come into the jail, and the officers that were on scene will advise the -- they'll advise the jailer if the inmate coming in has made any comments of self harm, harm to others, or shown any behavior that might reflect that.

And if a person does, you know, display that, then the arresting officer can let the jailer know so that he can put that person on a constant watch so they're within his sight throughout the entire time that they're in the jail until arraignment.

And the -- so anybody that would -- that would want to harm themselves or others would fall into that category, but we also have the suicide screening in the jail where we would -- we would go down through a list of questions and -- and ask.

That way, we can determine if the person

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falls under that category or not.

Q. Okay. And this might sound silly, but what are -- but what's the purpose of an inmate that is -- falls within that category of having suicidal ideations or harming themselves?

Like, what's the main reason why they're under constant observation, you know, just based on your training and experiences?

A. The reason we put them under a constant watch is so -- like, if we already have -- if we already have an idea that they have thoughts or behavior that show that they want to harm themselves or others, we want to be able to watch them the entire time to make sure they're not going to harm us, they're not going to harm other inmates, they're not going to harm themselves.

That way, while they're in the jail, they're safe as well.

Q. And what sort of precautions does -- or have you taken or you observed taken at Jamestown regarding inmates that fall within that category of constant observation to prevent self harm?

For example, like, a restraint chair, a

padded room, a helmet, is there -- can you talk to us about any sort of tools that Jamestown would have to use in that situation?

MS. D'AGOSTINO: Objection. You can answer if you understand the question.

THE WITNESS: One of the -- so one of the tools that we do have is the -- is the restraint chair. If somebody is in the jail and they are -- if they're trying to harm themselves or if I'm completing a check and they're trying to harm me, that's when we would utilize -- we would utilize the restraint chair.

If the person displays those types of behavior, unless they needed -- if they needed some sort of medical assistance in between, we wouldn't put them in the chair to get -- to get seen.

BY MR. ZACCAGNINO:

- Q. And can you describe what the -- what the -- sorry -- what the restraint chair is and how it prevents people from harming either officers or themselves?
 - A. The restraint chair's a padded chair

with straps that's attached to the floor that it -it will -- it will hold their arms, legs,
shoulders, waist down.

That way, they can't -- they can't continue to perform these behaviors.

Q. And in what situations do you, you know, based on your training -- training and experiences or policy and procedure would someone be placed in the restraint chair?

Like, what sort of -- what sort of observations would warrant that, I guess?

- A. I mean, if they have -- typically, it's going to be if they have -- if they have a suicide attempt or they start harming themselves in the jail or, like I said, harming -- trying to harm us.
- Q. And where are the -- the inmates that are under constant observation kept?

Are they kept in certain areas of the jail or is it -- you know, can you describe that for us?

A. So we have three locations where we can keep -- well, four if you count the restraint chair, where we can keep people that are constant watch.

We're in the booking room, and we have a -- a bench that's in with us that we attach handcuffs to and leg shackles.

So we have the booking room where they could be kept. We have the hall bench, which is within sight of us through the window; and the tank, which is also in sight through the window; and then the restraint chair.

- Q. And in those different areas, can you describe how an inmate that's under constant watch is restrained? Like, if they're handcuffed to something or if they're free to roam around in a cell, can you describe that for each location?
- A. So in the tank -- the tank is the only spot where they would be free to roam around.

The hall bench and the booking bench would have eye hooks where we can attach handcuffs or we can hook the leg restraints to the metal posts that go to the floor.

So they would have -- on the hall bench or the booking bench, they would have at least one form, whether it be a handcuff or a leg shackle.

Q. And how is it determined where a

constant-observation inmate is kept?

- A. That's up to the jailer at the time.
- Q. Okay. And is it up to the -- regarding what sort of supervision a person is getting, for example constant or non-constant or, you know, something different, is that a decision that's made by the officers that were on scene and interacting with the person that's in custody or is that a decision made by the jailer or somebody at the jail?
- A. It's a combination of the -- the arresting officers that are on scene because they have the first contact with the person.

So anybody at the jail is not going to know if this person, you know, made any suicidal comments, tried to harm themselves. They're not going to have any of that information.

So it's a combination of the arresting officer, the jailer based on -- because people are going to be in with others, other inmates, if they do something in front of him or he's going the same person that provides the suicide screening.

So between the arresting officer's

observation, the suicide screening, any observations made by the jailer. And then the shift commander also can make that decision.

- Q. Can you tell us about any -- any training or experiences you've had regarding handling an inmate in a jail setting who is either, you know, like, thrashing or hitting their head off the wall or doing anything similar to that other than what we've talked about?
- A. If somebody was hitting their head off the wall, typically, I would place them in the restraint chair at that time because that's our -- that's our method in the jail to prevent them from any self-destructive behavior.
- Q. Okay. Okay. And is -- is there any sort of process of re-evaluation of an inmate in whether or not they would go into a restraint chair based on their -- based on their behavior while they're in the jail?

So for example, if they're -- maybe they were -- they were self harming at one point and then maybe they calmed down and they -- they got worse again, is there any sort of process of

re-evaluation that happens?

A. So like, on scene, if the person is doing things like that, but then they deescalate themselves or we're able to deescalate them on the way to the jail or while they're in the booking room, if they start to deescalate, we kind of come down with them.

I'm not going to stick somebody in the chair that's just visibly upset or, you know, not -- not attempting to harm themselves or us at that time.

But if the behavior begins again, then that's when I would place somebody in the restraint chair. If we're in the jail and that behavior starts again, then we would do that.

Q. And have you had any experiences with inmates who -- who were on constant observation and who, you know, harm themselves at one point and then you're observing them and you're noticing that they're not -- you know, they haven't harmed themselves again but they're getting upset and agitated and you're kind of on alert to say, okay, I need to put the person in the restraint chair or take some other action to prevent self harm?

A. Are you asking if they attempted to harm themselves in the jail?

- Q. Yeah. So if they either harm themselves or attempted it at one point and -- you know, when they were in your custody and then maybe they calmed down and then they're -- you're noticing them getting upset and you -- getting upset and kind of leaning towards doing it again, harming themselves again.
- A. It's -- so it's if they harmed themselves, attempted to harm themselves in the jail, then they would go -- they would be placed in the restraint chair. So if they had done that, they would be placed in the restraint chair.

If we were to pull them out of the restraint chair and now they've calmed down after the two hours is up, they've calmed down, they're fine again and I can tell they're getting agitated, I can't just stick somebody in the chair just simply because they're upset, agitated because I think they might do something.

There has to be something to go along with it, so whether that be an inmate hitting his head

or trying to hang himself or something along those lines.

Q. And in those situations where maybe someone was in the chair and then they're -they're taken out and then they seemed to have calmed down but you can tell they're getting agitated, can you tell us about any sort of policy and procedure that you follow in that situation where, you know -- I know that you can't put them back in the chair just because you think they're getting agitated.

But are there any extra precautions that you take to say, okay, I can't put this person in the chair, but I can tell that they're getting really -- really frustrated so I'm going -- I'll just making something up -- give them a helmet or sit next to them to make sure they're not going to hit their head or do anything to harm themselves?

A. So we don't have any helmets or anything in our jail. And typically, in our jail, there's one jailer, and there could be a number of inmates. So we could -- we wouldn't be able to sit with them the entire time.

Typically, if I could tell someone was getting agitated, getting upset, they're still going to be on constant watch because they, you know, met that criteria.

Somebody like that, I might try to verbally deescalate them and talk to them; you know, try to figure out what's going on; see if they want some water; see if they want a blanket; try to work with them to try to help calm them down.

- Q. Okay. And can you tell us what 9.41 means, 9.41?
- A. So a person that is in a state where they wish to harm themselves or others, they would fall under the mental hygiene 9.41 where we would transport that person to the hospital.

Or if they're already in the jail, we would make them a 9.41 constant where, after arraignment, they would be taken to the -- the hospital to be -- to receive psychiatric evaluation.

Q. Okay. And from my understanding, there's a difference between maybe you're just observing someone that's odd behavior, not to be disrespectful, but that's not charged with a crime

versus someone that's a 9.41 that is charged with a crime?

Are those different policies and procedures for both of those scenarios?

A. So if -- if we're on a call and there's no arrests to be made and the person, you know, falls under the 9.41 criteria, that person would be taken straight to the hospital because we have no reason to transport them to our jail.

The -- once somebody's in our custody, whether it be they had a warrant or, you know, new charges, once they're in our custody and they begin to, you know, make suicidal comments, they try to harm themselves, try to harm us, then we would -- we would just leave the 9.41 paperwork, and that would be given to the jailer so he knows they're on constant watch, they need to go down to the hospital after -- after they are released.

That's -- that's the entire point of our observation with the suicide screenings and constant watch.

Q. And when is someone -- well, who -- is it always a Jamestown officer or City of Jamestown

employee who makes that call at -- in the jail, whether someone's a 9.41 or not or does that -- is that decided by someone else?

A. So as long as it's our arrest, yeah, they would be -- if it's an arrest that was made by a Jamestown officer or it's something that occurred in the jail, then it would -- it would always be a Jamestown Police Department officer.

But sometimes, we have -- we have prisoners come in from the Town of Ellicott or the Sheriff's Department where they might make a comment to them and they can advise us depending on whatever their procedure is.

Q. And you've kind of -- and you've explained it in detail, but what information does that give you regarding the amount of supervision that an -- that an -- that an inmate needs if you know, okay, this person -- maybe you weren't involved in this arrest, but you know this person is a 9.41.

Like, what does that tell you about the level of supervision needed on an inmate and maybe what their particular needs are to make sure that

they don't hurt themselves?

A. Once -- once I have that information, that's when I would -- at that point, I know they're on constant watch, they have to stay in front of me.

I know they're going to be -- typically, they're going to be the most needy inmates in the jail. So they're going to get -- primarily, they're going to get your attention first because they're up there with you.

A lot of times, they're in the booking room with you, so you can engage with them, you can talk to them and try to deescalate them to try to -- you know, to try to help them through.

Q. Okay. Okay. I'm just going to jump around a bit because we've covered a good amount of the initial questions I wanted to ask you.

Other than -- other than the -- the 9.41 and putting inmate on constant observation, can you tell us about any other policies and procedures that would apply to a situation where you suspect that an inmate is going through some sort of a mental health crisis or their mental health is just

deteriorating?

- A. Are you asking me if -- so if they haven't met, like, the constant-watch criteria and you think they might be -- or are you saying they're already on constant watch?
- Q. Yeah. They're already on constant, yeah.
- A. I mean, if you think they're getting worse while they're already in the jail, it's not like, you know, a medical issue where, you know, EMS can come to the jail and evaluate this person, then they would remain on constant watch and you would pay attention to them and try to talk to them.
- Q. Did you say pay attention to them a little more or just pay attention to them?
- A. You know, if you think that they are deteriorating, you're probably -- you would focus more on the -- on that inmate versus one that's just in a cell sleeping.
- Q. And what sort -- based on your experiences, what sort of -- for lack of a better term, signs and symptoms, do you look out for on an

inmate that's in your care or a suspect that's in your care that might have a mental health condition that's getting worse and worse and worse?

A. Typically, you're watching for the self-destructive behavior where they're hitting their head; they're, you know, trying to -- trying to hurt themselves; trying to break the cuffs or shackles off of the bench.

You're watching for any -- any cues like that to where, you know, you would need to intervene.

- Q. Got it. Okay. And did you -- did you receive any sort of specific training regarding any sort of mental health conditions, for example, like a PTSD or an anxiety disorder or, you know, anything similar to that?
- A. I know we -- we talked about it in the -- in the academy a little bit, just how to deal with emotionally disturbed persons and -- yeah.
- Q. Okay. Is there any medical -- is there any medical staff at the Jamestown jail?
 - A. We don't have any medical staff at the

jail. Jamestown Fire Department is connected to the police department, so they're just through the garage.

Typically, if we call to EMS and they're going by, they'll come into the jail and ALSTAR, if needed, as well.

Q. Okay.

- A. Yeah.
- Q. Is there -- is there any part of the suicide-screening process that involves questioning the -- the inmate or suspect regarding any sort of past mental health diagnoses or treatment?
- A. Yeah. There's a question on the suicide screening that asks if they've ever received mental health counseling.
- Q. And how does that play into the result of the suicide screening? Like, what is that -- what is that -- like, if the answer was yes or no -- or I'm sorry -- if the answer to that was yes, if they had a previous treatment or previous diagnosis, how does that play into the amount of supervision that you give them?
 - A. So simply the fact that they had

previous mental health -- received mental health assistance anywhere, that -- that wouldn't make them a constant watch by saying yes or no.

It would be off the jail officer's observations and if they're currently -- if they tell you they've had a past suicide attempt within the previous year, you know, if they have nothing to look forward to, those -- those are the -- those are the ones that would automatically make them a constant watch.

Them wanting to harm themselves, that -- that would create the 9.41 as well as the constant watch.

- Q. Okay. So basically, the -- so the suicide screening, does that -- is that the questionnaire that you go through that leads to the -- leads to the 9.41 or are they two separate things?
- A. They can be separate. They can be together. It just depends on how that inmates answers -- how they answer the questions.

They can be a 9.41 before I even read them the questions. Sometimes I just read them to kind

of gauge, you know, where they're at.

Maybe they were suicidal on scene, but now they've calmed themselves down. I still like to ask them so I know, plus it allows me to talk to the person and try to deescalate them.

- Q. Did it jump up? So the suicide screening, does that -- basically, does that determine -- that just goes to the amount of supervision that someone needs? Is that --
- A. Yeah. The suicide screening helps determine if they're going to be constant watch or if they're going to be placed in the male block.

 Yeah.
- Q. And have you had any -- have you had any experiences in -- you know, I'm assuming in the question that you had a similar experience with Christian, but I'll -- I'll get to that in a bit.

But have you had any experiences other than Christian with inmates that were banging their heads off walls or banging their head off the ground or off of objects trying to harm themselves?

A. Yeah. In the jail, I've had -- I've had people start to hit their heads.

Q. And other than what we talked about -
I think you mentioned putting them in the restraint

chair and/or putting them on constant observation.

Are there any other precautions that you've taken -- that you've taken in that situation, where you've observed someone hitting their head off the walls or off of objects or off the ground?

- A. I have not. The restraint chair is the thing I've used.
- Q. Okay. I want to shift gears and talk about any training or experiences that you had in the use of force in general.
- A. Yeah. We received training in the -in the sheriff's academy for use of force, and then
 we receive yearly use-of-force training through the
 department.
- Q. And can you describe for us just generally what the Use of Force Continuum is?
- A. So the Use of Force Continuum helps us determine -- based on the person, the suspect, their actions and behavior, helps us determine what level of force is reasonable to use at that -- at that time.

- Q. And can you -- can you describe for us the -- the different levels of resistance that are within the Use of Force Continuum and then what level of response that you can give to a certain level of resistance?
- A. So first would be on the -- the suspect, subject's side; psychological intimidation, like them taking a shirt off; just showing any sort of, like, fighting behavior; verbal noncompliance, where they're not listening to our verbal commands; passive resistance, where they would be just, like, dead weight; like, defensive resistance, tensing up, trying to -- they're trying to pull away; then, like, active -- actively resisting, where the person's actively trying to fight with us.

And then the next level would be if they were trying to -- if they were trying to harm us, like, with a deadly weapon or kill us. Then that would be the last level.

And then on our side, it would be our -- our presence. So when we show up, we're in uniform.

They know that we're a police officer, our verbal

commands.

Then we have soft-hand techniques, which are grabs and takedowns; and hard, empty-hand techniques, which would be strikes, kick, anything of that nature.

Then it would be weapons, like TASER and OC spray, and then deadly physical force would be at the top.

- Q. And what sort of response can you give if someone's passively resisting? For example, they're just -- they're just being dead weight, what sort of force can you use in that situation?
- A. So if somebody's just passively resisting and they're dead weight, at that point, we can -- we can use, like, soft, empty-hand techniques where we're using takedowns or we're going hands-on at that point.
- Q. And have you received any sort of specific training or have you had any sort of specific experiences with using force on an inmate during the course of an arrest that is either threatening self harm or doing any sort of action to harm themselves?

A. Yeah. I've had -- I've had people in the past that have been attempting to harm themselves or threatening -- threatening harm.

And that's when we try to do what we can to try to, obviously, prevent that.

- Q. And what sort of precautions or steps do you take in that situation to prevent self harm?
- A. Well, the -- if -- if they're just stating that they want to harm themselves, then that's where the 9.41 process would begin. We would complete that.

If they're actively trying to harm themselves, like hitting their head, we would -- we would post on their head by placing our hand on the back of their head, that way -- or the side of their head.

That way, they can't get any leverage to continue banging their head.

Q. Can you tell us about any sort of policy and procedure that applies to a situation where you have an inmate that, during the course of an arrest, is threatening self harm or actually doing actions to harm themselves regarding how you

would -- you would restrain them and transport them to the jail without them harming themselves further?

A. Typically, if -- if we're able to, we would -- we have -- we always handcuff in the back. That way, they don't have access to -- you know, their hands aren't free.

But we would transport and, if needed, we would -- we could stop, address the situation, try to get them to calm down.

But typically, we would transport to the jail, since it's a short distance away, and then address the situation there.

If it was something where that person needed medical attention immediately, we would have EMS meet us or transport to a local hospital.

- Q. And now, on December 10 of 2020, you were a Jamestown officer, right --
 - A. Yes.
 - Q. -- Jamestown employee on that night?
 - A. Yes.

Q. And were you -- were you working that night?

A. Yes.

- Q. Okay. And who -- what shift were you on on December 10 of 2020?
 - A. Night shift, which is eleven to seven.
- Q. Okay. And who was on the night shift with you?
- A. That night, I know Lieutenant Ward was the shift commander. Officer Schimek, he was on the command deck. Officer Conklin was in the city jail. Myself and Officer Obergfell were on patrol and Officer Johanson was on patrol that night.
- Q. Okay. Okay. I just want to ask you -I'm just going to ask you some quick questions
 regarding some specific policies, and then I'll get
 into what your interactions with Christian were
 that night. Okay?
 - A. Okay.
- Q. And really, the only thing I'm interested in on these policies is if you recognize them and if, to your knowledge, they were in effect on December 10 of 2020. That's all I'm really interested in.
 - A. Okay.

- Q. So let me share my screen here. Okay.
 Can you see my screen?
- A. Yes.

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Q. Okay. So I want to show you -- and I may -- and I was able to do it where you could see a preview, so this should go a little bit smoother.

So I'm showing you what's marked as

Plaintiff's A. Do you see that on the screen where

it's got an A on the top-right corner, and then it

has number 1.11.01 and then, subject, use of force?

- Do you see that?
- 12 **A.** Yes.
 - Q. And my question is -- and I can page down, but if you've seen this before and if -- if this was a policy that was in effect on December 10 of 2020.
- 17 **A.** Yes.
- 18 Q. Okay. Okay. So yes to both?
- 19 **A.** Yes.
- Q. Okay. Okay. I want to show you what

 has been marked as Plaintiff's B. And just in case

 I got the numbering mixed up, it has number
- 23 2.02.12. And the subject is psychiatric evaluation

and transports. Do you see that?

A. Yes.

- Q. Okay. And same question: If you've seen it before and if it was in effect on December 10 of 2020. And I can page -- I can page through it.
 - A. Yes.
- Q. Okay. Okay. Yeah. And it looks like, at the bottom left-hand corner of these policies, it has issued and revised, so that would probably tell us as well. Okay.

I want to go to Plaintiff's Exhibit C. And so Plaintiff's Exhibit C has policy number 4.02.05 and has prisoner custody transport and treatment.

Same questions: If you've seen this before and if it appears to be the policy that was in effect -- a policy that was in effect on December 10 of 2020.

- A. Yes.
- Q. Okay. Okay. And now I'm showing you Exhibit D. It's policy number 4.05.01, and it has suicide prevention program development. And it says, effective April 15th of 1994.

Have you seen this policy before and was it in effect on December 10 of 2020?

A. Yes.

Q. Okay. And then the last one, which I believe is exhibit Plaintiff's D, which has policy number 4.05.08, and it has suicide prevention program referrals of prisoners for mental and medical health service.

Have you seen this before and was it the -- a policy that was effective on December 10 of 2020?

- A. Yes.
- Q. Okay. I might have mixed that one up, but I'm showing you on the screen policy number 4.05.01, and it's suicide prevention program development effective April 15th, 1994.

Do you recognize this? Is this what we just -- did we just look at this one?

MR. RAIMONDO: I think we just looked at this one, Blake.

MR. ZACCAGNINO: Okay. Sorry about that.

I'm a little mixed up. Let me see. I think we might have looked at this one, but -- here.

BY MR. ZACCAGNINO:

Q. Here. The 4.05.01 was just the suicide prevention program development, and it's one page.

So have you seen this before and was it in effect on December 10 of 2020?

A. Yes.

Q. Okay. All right. I can stop sharing my screen for now.

So I was wondering if I could ask you -- you know, I figure the easiest way that I could do this is to ask you about -- you know, just -- just generally what your -- what your interactions were with Christian Powell on December 10th of 2020 maybe from start to finish.

And then I can kind of break it down if need be or just kind of jump in to ask you questions, if that's all right.

A. Okay. So the Chautauqua County

Sheriff's Department responded to a call at 111

Barrett Avenue to speak with Mr. Powell regarding a larceny of titles, and it was stuff with his kids.

At an address on -- I believe it was Stone Road that was outside the city. So when he called,

we were advised that Mr. Powell had a valid felony arrest warrant for criminal contempt, first, out of Jamestown.

So myself and Officer Obergfell were dispatched to back up the sheriff's car, which was Deputy Madonia.

When we arrived on scene, Deputy Madonia spoke with Mr. Powell regarding -- regarding the incident that he -- he had called about, what he wanted to discuss.

And at the end of their conversation,

Mr. Powell -- throughout their conversation,

Mr. Powell was very -- very agitated.

He was -- you know, we were trying to deescalate and trying to get him to calm down because it's three in the morning and he's outside yelling and causing a disturbance.

So when Deputy Madonia was done speaking to Mr. Powell, Deputy Madonia advised him of his warrant. So once he was advised of his -- once he was advised of the warrant, he -- he stated no, and he began to reach into his pockets.

And at this time, Mr. Powell hadn't been

searched. We didn't know if he had any knives, guns, weapons, anything to harm us on his person.

So when he started to reach into his pocket, myself and Officer Obergfell took control of his wrists, and we were attempting to place him into custody and trying to get his hands behind his back because he had the felony -- the felony warrants.

He was a threat to us at that time because we don't know what he's -- what he's going to do.

He's -- and then at that time, he began to tense up. He was yelling. He refused to put his hands behind his back. He was trying to curl them in front of him and pull away from us.

So after several attempts of trying to calm him down, getting him to put his hands behind his back, we used our -- our training, which is handcuff while on the ground because it's a -- a better position for us to gain control.

So Officer Obergfell and I performed a two-officer takedown. I bear-hugged Powell's legs, and that way, he couldn't -- he couldn't run.

And Officer Obergfell lowered him to the ground with the arm that he was trying to gain

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control of.

I -- so I anchored his legs to the ground by hugging his legs so he couldn't thrash and kick and try to get back up because that's a threat to us.

When his hands are underneath him because we don't know what's in his grabbable area at the time.

So Officer Obergfell and Deputy Madonia began to attempt to extract Mr. Powell's hands.

We -- we tried talking to him throughout -- throughout the arrest. We -- we tried to get him to comply. He refused.

So they -- they began extracting his hands, pulling them out from underneath him to place the wrist restraints on.

At that time, Mr. Powell's mother came outside. I didn't know it was his mother at the time, but she started approaching us. I advised her to stay back, which she did, and she was also trying to assist us in calming Christian down.

Once -- once we were able to get the wrist restraints on, we -- we kind of got up off him a little bit to just apply pressure just to hold him

onto the ground so he wasn't thrashing around trying to run away or anything.

We just kind of sat with him there trying to talk to him trying to deescalate him because he was clearly agitated.

And we advised him that we'll stand you up as soon as you calm down. We tried talking to him numerous times.

At one point, he was banging his head off of the gravel, and Officer Obergfell stated that -- that he was bleeding.

So at that point, I called for -- I called for EMS for them to come to evaluate Mr. Powell, make sure there was nothing that needed immediate attention from medical staff.

He continued to, you know, show aggressive behavior and, you know, noncompliance verbally. So we -- we stayed with him on the ground.

We were eventually able to stand him up.

And once we got him up, we were able to check his pockets. He -- he was then walked over to a marked patrol car.

And we were attempting to place Mr. Powell

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into the back of the car. He was still being aggressive.

We advised EMS to meet us at the jail. It's a better location. It's close. Jamestown Fire Department's connected to the police department, so we knew that they could meet us immediately.

So we decided to just have them meet us there. We didn't want to put ALSTAR or the fire department in harm's way out in the dark where you can't really see and he's still being aggressive.

So we -- we went and placed him in the back of the car. He was kicking at the car. We were trying to place him in the back.

We were able to get him in Officer Obergfell's car, and then Officer Obergfell transported him to the city jail.

- Q. And you mentioned that, at one point, he was -- Christian was hitting his head off the gravel?
 - A. Yes.

Q. Was that after he was -- after he was handcuffed or was it in the process of being handcuffed?

- A. I was holding -- I was holding

 Mr. Powell's legs, so my face and body cam was

 mostly down and those guys were in front of me. So

 I couldn't say if it was before or after.
- Q. And do you know how many -- do you have an estimate of how many times he hit his head on the ground, if it was one time, five times, or something in the middle or something else?
 - A. That, I'm not sure on.
- Q. Okay. And can you tell us about anything that was done to either prevent Christian from hitting his head -- hitting his head off the ground or preventing him from self harm just based on your interactions with him prior to using force?
 - A. I'm sorry. Could you repeat that?
- Q. Sure. Can you tell us about any sort of -- any sort of precautions that you took to prevent Christian from banging -- or from hitting his head off the ground?
- A. I believe Officer Obergfell, he placed his hand on his head to get head control. That way, Christian could no longer lift his head off the ground to continue to bang his head.

- Q. And how is he -- how was he restrained at that point? Was he -- were the handcuffs behind him or in front of him or --
- A. I'm not sure if he was -- I'm not sure if he was handcuffed yet at that point, but once we did place the wrist restraints on, they were behind his back.
- Q. Okay. And then he was put into the patrol car?
 - A. Yes.

- Q. Okay. Was anything done differently as far as how he was restrained within the patrol car to prevent him from any further -- further self harm, for example just, you know, maybe handcuffing his ankle or, you know, preventing further movement or was there anything further done beyond handcuffing him and placing him in the back of the car to prevent further self harm?
- A. Just the handcuffs at that point in time.
- 21 Q. And I know that you -- or you might
 22 have mentioned this earlier, but -- I think you
 23 mentioned -- and you can tell me if I'm wrong.

If a prisoner or someone in custody is engaging in self harm on the way to where you're transporting him, you have the option of stopping and going in to address the -- you know, address the suspect?

- A. Yeah. If -- so if somebody's -- if they're trying to escape the handcuffs, if they're trying to, you know, damage our car or hurt themselves, we always have the option of stopping, calling for another car wherever our location is to stop -- or try to help any further behavior from -- yeah -- from him hurting himself or damaging our property or trying to escape.
- Q. Did you have any further -- any further interactions with Christian beyond the 111 Barrett and then placing him in the patrol car?
- A. After that, I responded to the city jail just to assist.
- Q. And what were your interactions or observations with Christian when he got to the jail?
- A. Once he was in the jail, he was -- he was kind of -- he was crying. He was upset, and he

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would just -- you know, he would start yelling at us.

He was -- he was clearly -- clearly agitated, and he would just -- he would kind of go up and down emotionally as he were trying to get his -- as we were trying to get his property from him.

- Q. And then can you tell us about any observations that you had of him maybe from the time you first got to the -- when you first got to the jail until -- until his arraignment?
- A. I was only in the jail for the period of time where we -- where we gathered his property. And then after that, I went back out on patrol.
- Q. And was it -- was it your understanding that, on the way to -- on the way from 111 Barrett to Jamestown jail that Christian was bashing his head off the -- the inside of the patrol car?
 - A. I was not aware of that.
- Q. Okay. And did you have any -- did you have any knowledge that -- or is it your understanding that when he first got to the jail and he was taken out of the car, that he hit his

head off the trunk of the patrol car?

Do you have any knowledge of that?

- A. I was advised by other officers, but I never saw anything because I wasn't there.
- Q. And -- and was Christian put into the restraint chair at least from the -- the point that -- or during the time frame that you observed him at the jail?
 - A. No.

- Q. Okay. And can you tell us -- and I think you mentioned it earlier, but you can tell me if I'm wrong -- anything that Christian said or any threats that he made during the course of your interaction either at 111 Barrett or at the -- or at the jail where he was threatening self harm or threatening suicide?
- A. When -- when he was on the ground on Barrett Ave when we were -- when we were handcuffing and he was striking his head, he made suicidal comments.
- Q. And did he make any other suicidal comments or -- you know, I know that you mentioned when he was at the jail he was crying. You know,

did he make any sort of other statements that he wanted to die or anything that you observed?

- A. I don't recall.
- Q. When -- what was he crying about? Do you -- do you remember, like, if it was a -- if it was regarding his kids or just -- just the general situation of him being arrested?
- MS. D'AGOSTINO: Objection. You can answer if you know.

THE WITNESS: I'm not exactly sure. He -he'd mentioned his kids. He'd mentioned the title.
He'd mentioned his -- his girlfriend or
ex-girlfriend and not having slept.

BY MR. ZACCAGNINO:

Q. And I -- you know, how would you describe -- you know, you pretty much already done it, but how would you describe his behavior at the Jamestown jail based on your observations?

You know, I know you mentioned he seemed agitated, but can you describe -- can you tell us how you would describe his behavior at the Jamestown jail based on your observations?

- A. He went through -- he went through a bunch of emotions from being upset, like I said, to crying to angry to -- he just was kind of all over the place.
- Q. Did it seem like he was -- he was having some sort of a mental health crisis or if he was just really upset based on the circumstances?
- A. That, I'm not sure. Obviously, we had already completed -- at that point, he was already a 9.41 constant watch, so he -- he had already fit that criteria for mental health.
- Q. Okay. And then I know that you -- your observations of him at the jail, at the actual jail, was limited, but did you learn any other information regarding Christian's behaviors from the time that you last observed him at the jail until he -- until he left the facility?
 - A. No. I was on other calls.
- Q. Okay. Were you made aware of any further -- any further instances of self harm or self-harming actions that he did from the time that you last observed him at Jamestown jail until he left the facility?

A. I was not.

Q. Okay. Okay. And I think you mentioned who was on the shift or -- and tell me if I'm wrong. I think you mentioned who was on the scene.

And did you tell us who was at the Jamestown jail when you were there? I don't remember if I asked you that.

A. I don't believe you asked.

So Officer Conklin, he was the jail officer that day. Our shift commander, Lieutenant Ward, he was in the jail.

Officer Schimek, he was in the jail. I was in the jail. Officer Obergfell was in the jail, and Officer Kaitlin Johanson was in the jail.

- Q. How many other suspects or inmates were at the jail at the time?
- A. I don't recall.
- Q. Okay. Okay. Can you tell us how many -- I think you mentioned -- well, I can ask you this: Were there three officers on scene at 111 Barrett and then Christian and his mom?

Were those the only people that were on scene that you were aware of?

- A. Those were the only ones that I was aware of at the time. I do remember that, as I was leaving, a neighbor came outside, but that's -- that's all I remember.
- Q. And I think you mentioned that Christian's mom came out at one point and was kind of coming near the scene.

Was she interfering with your arrest at all or did she just kind of show up and you said, hey, back up, and then she was -- you know, she was done?

- A. Yeah. She came out. I advised her to stay back, and she complied.
 - Q. And when -- when you advised Christian that he had warrants and that you had to take him in, did he try to run away at all?
- A. He didn't try to run. He just started reaching into his pockets.
- Q. Okay. And on -- in your search of him, did he end up having any weapons on him at the time or no?
 - A. I don't recall him having any weapons.
 - Q. And what was he wearing? Was he

wearing his pajamas or was he in jeans or do you know what he was wearing?

A. I remember him saying he had a 200-dollar pair of jeans on.

- Q. And what were his -- what charges came out of the incident at 111 Barrett? Like, were they misdemeanors or felonies or what level of criminal charge came out of that incident?
- A. Well, so in the beginning, he had the felony arrest warrant. And then at the scene, he additionally was charged with criminal mischief, four; obstructing governmental administration; and resisting arrest, which are misdemeanors.
- Q. And the felony -- you said felony contempt?
- A. Yeah. He had a felony criminal contempt first arrest warrant.
- Q. Was it -- what was the nature of the contempt? Was it violating an order of protection or --
 - A. That, I don't -- I don't know.
- Q. Okay. Okay. Do you know if it was a violent -- if it was considered to be, like, a

violent -- I don't know if the term would be violent violation of the order or if it was just he had an order -- he had an order of protection in favor of someone else and the allegation was just that he was present in violating it? Do you know?

> Α. That, I'm not sure.

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- Q. Okay. Did you hear Christian, at any point at 111 Barrett, ask to be sent to the hospital for mental health evaluation?
- I don't remember him saying anything. Α. I do remember his mom saying something regarding 12 that.
 - What was she saying about that? Do you Q. remember?
 - Α. I just remember she was trying to deescalate and trying to calm him down so we could stand him up. We were telling him, we're going to get you up, you just got to calm down, you just got to calm down.

And she had said that he needs a mental health eval, and that was shortly after he was banging his head on the ground, which at that point --

Q. Okay.

- A. Which, at that point, he was banging his head and making suicidal comments. So he was already going to get an eval once released from -- or after arraignment at our jail.
- Q. Did he make any sort of statements regarding having, like, a prior appointment at Jones Hill -- Jones Hill facility for a psychiatric issue or --
 - A. I don't recall.
- Q. Okay. And other than what we've talked about, was there anything else done in responses to his mom informing you, like, hey, he's -- he probably needs mental health evaluation?
- A. I guess -- what are you asking with that?
- Q. I'm sorry. I could rephrase. Any sort of extra precautions taken of -- you know, of -- in response to being made aware that he may have some pre-existing psychiatric issue or, you know, anything else done to prevent him from acting out his self-harming behaviors?
 - A. At that point, we'd taken most of the

precautions that we -- we have available. We made him a 9.41. We made him a constant watch in the jail. We had attempted to use head control to prevent him from further harming himself, so --

- Q. Okay. Did Christian, at any point at 111 Barrett, express that it -- that his handcuffs were too tight?
 - A. I don't recall.

- Q. Do you recall if his handcuffs were ever -- if the tightness was ever adjusted at any point at 111 Barrett?
- A. That, I'm not sure because the other officers, they handcuffed him. I was holding on his legs.
- Q. Okay. Okay. On scene at -- well, I could ask this as a more general question.

Was there any point at either 111 Barrett or at the jail that you observed one of the other officers on scene jump in to either prevent another officer from using a certain type of force or take some -- some other action to prevent him from harming himself or were you guys pretty much in agreement on -- on how the situation was being

handled?

MS. D'AGOSTINO: Objection. You can answer if you understand the question.

THE WITNESS: Yeah. I'm not sure -- I'm not sure what you're asking.

MR. ZACCAGNINO: Oh. Sure. So what I'm asking is: At any point during your interaction with Christian, whether it was at 111 Barrett when force was used or your observations of him at the jail, did -- were all of the officers pretty much in agreement with how to handle the situation or was there disagreement regarding, you know, okay, I shouldn't use this -- you know, this amount of force should not be used or this amount of supervision should not be used?

Do you know what I'm asking? It's a bad question, but I don't know if you understand it.

MS. D'AGOSTINO: Objection. You can answer if you understand the question.

THE WITNESS: Yeah. Like, on scene, the force that was used was all agreed upon by all of us. We have a subject that is -- you know, he already has felony arrest warrants.

He is not showing us his hands, which are a threat to us when he's placing them in his pockets and we're not sure what he's going to pull out, whether it be weapons.

He's actively resisting our arrest at that point in time. So at that time, he's -- he's actively resisting, so using -- using takedowns are, you know, well within our ability for that level of use of force for reasonableness.

BY MR. ZACCAGNINO:

- Q. Was he slammed up against the car in the driveway at 111 Barrett?
 - A. No.
- Q. Did Christian throw any punches at officers or -- or kick officers at all?
- when we placed him in the patrol car. He tried kicking the car. And then when we placed him in the car, he tried rolling on his side and kicking out the door at us. But other than that, I'm not sure if he tried anything else once in the jail.
 - Q. Okay. And was there -- was there any

point during the course of his arrest at 111

Barrett where he broke free of -- of -- of any of
the officers or was -- during the course of his
arrest, did at least one officer have contact with
him as far as, like, you know, holding on to him?

A. We had contact with him.

- Q. Okay. Okay. Had you had any prior experiences with Christian before that night?
- A. I don't recall. I know -- I remember on my body cam, I had stated that I hadn't seen him in a while. For myself, sometimes I use that as a deescalation tactic because sometimes, it calms them down, like, maybe it's a familiar face.

So I'm not sure on that.

- Q. Okay. Did he express to -- to anyone on the scene during the course of his arrest at 111 Barrett that he -- he couldn't breathe?
- A. Yeah. He stated that while he was on the ground as he was yelling and cursing at us.
- Q. Were there any sort of adjustments made to that -- made in response to that?
- A. At that point in time, we -- I was still kind of anchoring his legs. Deputy Madonia,

I believe, was holding his -- I think it was his right-shoulder area down.

So there was no -- no direct pressure to his neck. There was no -- there was no adjustment made immediately until he calmed down, and then we -- and then we stood him up.

- Q. Okay. And at what point during the course of his arrest at 111 did -- did -- you know, I know that you can't -- you can't speak for how the other officers were feeling, obviously, but at what point did you feel that Christian was no longer a threat to -- no longer a threat to you as far as harming you?
- A. When he -- when he, like, stopped tensing up -- I mean, we could feel he kind of -- he stopped tensing up. He was starting to -- he was starting to be able to talk to us.

He asked to be stood up, and at that point in time, we felt that it was time to, you know, stand him up, see if he would remain calm. That way, we could continue the arrest and transport.

Q. Do you know if -- if Christian was given a mental health evaluation per the 9.41

before his arraignment or after?

- A. That, I'm not sure. My shift ended at -- at seven that day. So after that, I'm not sure what -- what took place.
- Q. And is it the -- is it the general practice and procedure to -- that if an inmate is a 9.41, they generally will get seen at a hospital after -- after the arraignment and then they're kind of out of your -- they're kind of out of your care?
- A. Correct. So if they were -- if they were released -- released on their own recognizance or whatever after arraignment, they wouldn't be permitted to -- they would have to address the mental health 9.41 first.

So they would be transported to the hospital before everything was done, but if they were -
I've never worked a day shift in the jail, so I can't speak for what happens if they are being sent to -- if they're being sent to Mayville or -- I'm not sure at what point the eval is done.

Q. And when you left your shift, which -- was that -- that was at 7:00 a.m.?

Wise - Zaccagnino - 08/16/23 62 1 Α. Correct. 2 Was Christian still there at the jail 3 when you left? That, I'm not sure. 4 Α. 5 And you went to -- when you first got Q. 6 to 111 Barrett, was that at about 3:00 a.m. --7 Α. Yes. -- or 2:33? Okay. 8 Q. 9 Do you know when he left Jamestown booking or no? 10 11 Α. That, I'm not sure. 12 Do you, by chance, know who was on the 13 day shift on December 10th? 14 Α. I don't. 15 Okay. Did -- did Christian make any Q. 16 statements to you during the course of your interactions with him that he was drinking, that he 17 had been drinking? 18 I don't recall that. 19 Α. 20 I just want to go through -- if you can just give me two minutes, I just want to make sure 21 22 I have all of the exhibits up, and then I will get

you finished fairly quickly. Is that okay?

Wise - Zaccagnino - 08/16/23 63 Okay. Just give me one minute. 1 2 3 (Whereupon, a recess was then taken.) 4 5 BY MR. ZACCAGNINO: 6 Officer, do you know -- I think you mentioned that EMS was called -- that -- sorry -that EMS was called from the scene at 111 Barrett? 8 Yes. I called for them. 9 Α. 10 And what was the reason why it was Q. 11 called or why EMS was called? 12 I heard Officer Obergfell state that he 13 was bleeding after he hit his head. So any time 14 there's any sort of, you know, possible injury, we 15 aren't medical professionals so we like to get the 16 person evaluated to get, you know, a better 17 opinion. 18 0. And did -- did Christian get any injury during the course of the arrest that was caused by 19 20 the officers -- by any of the officers using force 21 that you're aware of? 22 Α. Not that I'm aware of. 23 And did EMS meet him at the -- the Q.

jail --

A. Yes.

Q. -- or on the scene? Okay.

And then did you observe any other -- other than EMS on the scene, I understand he -- he got some additional care after, but was that the only care that you observed him getting while he was at the jail and then you were kind of off -- you know, you were not involved?

- A. Yeah. Once -- once we got his property and ALSTAR evaluated him, after that, I didn't have any more contact with him.
- Q. Okay. And what -- what injuries did you notice on him after the -- after he was brought from 111 to the scene -- or to booking?
- A. Once we got to the jail, I noticed that he had some scrapes -- I can't remember on which side on his forehead -- that were from him bashing his head on the ground.

And then I know ALSTAR was checking out a -I believe it was a finger that was bleeding, but
other than that, those were the -- those were the
only two I was aware of.

Q. Okay. I just want to go through some exhibits here, and I'll go through them quickly. The only thing I'm interested in is if you've seen them before and if they're a fair and accurate representation of the document.

A. Okay.

Q. So let me -- let me go to my Dropbox again. I like Dropbox. It's easy. Let's see.

Okay. So I want to show you -- I think we marked this one as Plaintiff's Exhibit F, but I can just -- I can describe it.

It has Jamestown Police Department report day Thursday 12/10/2020 at 0253. And then on the top, because I think this was -- this was E-filed. It just has the case number, case 121 and then 00721. Do you recognize this document here?

A. Yes. That's an incident report.

Q. The incident report? Okay. And does this -- does it appear to be fair and accurate?

A. Yes.

Q. Okay. Okay. I'm showing you that -- I think this one was marked as G, but I'm not completely sure, but I can just describe it.

It has -- the top-left corner has case file number 1044, and then it has filed date 8/23/21, page 5 of 9 in the left corner.

Do you recognize this document?

- A. That is an incident report that Officer Conklin completed in the jail.
- Q. Okay. And does it appear to be fair and accurate?
 - A. I didn't write that report, so --
 - Q. Okay. Okay. That's fair enough.

Okay. I'm showing you -- I had it marked as Plaintiff's H, but it -- just for reference, it has case file number 1018 on the top left, and it has Jamestown Police Department. And then it has filed 8/30/21, page 5 of 7.

Do you recognize this document here?

- A. That's a -- it appears to be an incident report completed by day shift, by --
 - Q. Okay.

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- 20 A. -- by Officer Conti. So I've never 21 seen that.
 - Q. Okay. Okay. I want to show you what's been marked as Plaintiff's Exhibit I, I believe,

but this is a use-of-force form.

And just so that we can refer to it later, it has document number 14-3 on the top middle.

Do you recognize this?

- A. Yes. It's a -- actually, keep going down on it. Yeah. That's the use-of-force report that Officer Obergfell completed --
 - Q. Okay.
- A. -- and the shift commander signed off on.
- Q. And does it appear to be fair and accurate -- a fair and accurate representation of it?
- A. Yes.

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Q. Okay. I'm not sure -- I don't think we went over this one, but I could be wrong. I had this marked as Exhibit J -- or I'm sorry -- plaintiff's J, case file number 1044.

And it has document 14-5 on the top, filed 8/27/21. Do you recognize this document here?

- 21 A. I do not. That's a jail incident 22 completed by Officer Conklin.
 - Q. Okay. The last exhibit I want to show

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you is -- I guess it's not marked as K, but it has

M on the top and is -- has -- has request for

examination of person, document number 14-3.
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It looks like the 9.41 document. Do you recognize this?

- A. Yes. That's the 9.41 I completed.
- Q. Oh. You completed this one?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Okay. And is it fair and accurate?
- **A.** Yes.

- Q. Okay. Did you review anything to prepare for today as far as documents or anything?
- A. Yeah. I reviewed my body cam. I reviewed the original incident, the informations, the resisting, the obstructing, the criminal mischief, the use-of-force report, the mental health -- the mental health 9.41 report, and then went over some of the GOs.
- Q. And is there -- do you have a discipline -- a discipline file at Jamestown police?
- A. Are you saying have I been personally disciplined or do we have one for each officer?

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- Q. Yeah. Just in general if you have one for each officer.
- A. Yeah. I believe they document it. I don't have any disciplinary issues that I'm aware of.
- Q. Have you -- have you given any previous testimony either civilly or criminally?
 - A. Criminally, I have.
- Q. Okay. Just for, like, DWIs and things like that or --
- 11 A. Yeah. For felony arrests and then,
 12 yeah, like, DWI.
 - Q. Okay. Have you ever been named in a lawsuit for -- other than -- or I'm sorry.
- Have you either been involved in a lawsuit

 other than this one for your -- regarding your work

 as an officer?
- 18 **A.** No.

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- MR. ZACCAGNINO: Okay. That's all I have
 for you. Either Mary or Elliott might have some
 follow-ups, but I appreciate your time.
- 22 **THE WITNESS:** Okay. Thank you.
- 23 MR. ZACCAGNINO: Thank you.

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MS. D'AGOSTINO: Officer, do you need another break? I just have a couple questions for you. It should be pretty quick.

THE WITNESS: I should be okay.

MS. D'AGOSTINO: Okay.

EXAMINATION BY MS. D'AGOSTINO:

Q. When opposing counsel was questioning you, you said that you didn't believe Mr. Powell was trying to run. Do you remember testifying to that?

- A. I do, yeah.
- 14 Q. Is flight a prerequisite for you to use 15 force?
- 16 **A.** Yes.

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- 17 Q. Is flight a prerequisite for you to use 18 force?
 - A. Like, when can we use force to --
 - Q. Yeah. In order for you to use force, does someone have to flee from you or are there other circumstances where you can use force?
 - A. Oh. There's other circumstances.

Sorry.

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- Q. Okay. And then do you recall being asked about whether Mr. Powell was kicking or hitting at the officers?
 - A. Yes.
- Q. Is that type of behavior a prerequisite for you using force?
- A. If we're being kicked at, yeah, we would use force.
- Q. Okay. But does someone that you're trying to arrest -- do they have to be attempting to assault you in order for you for use force?
 - A. No. There's other -- other --
- Q. Okay. What type of resistance would you say that -- when you were trying to take

 Mr. Powell into custody, what type of resistance was he exhibiting?
- A. I would say, like, defensive resistance. He was pulling away. He was tensing up. He -- yeah. He was verbally noncompliant.
- Q. So in terms of his level of resistance,
 is it something beyond passive resistance that he
 was displaying?

- A. Yeah. I believe so. Because he's -he's pulling away at that point in time, not
 allowing us to take him into custody.
- Q. Okay. And you indicated that you didn't recall whether, after he was searched, whether he had any weapons on him. Do you remember testifying about that?
 - A. Yes.

- Q. But at the time you were trying to take him into custody, did you know for certain that he did not have weapons on him?
- A. We had no idea if he had anything on him at that point in time.
- Q. And were you the officer that placed handcuffs on him?
 - A. No. Officer Obergfell did.
- Q. Okay. And if you had any indication that another officer placed handcuffs on him that were too tight, would you have loosened them for Mr. Powell?
- 21 A. Yes. I would have intervened at that 22 point.
 - Q. Okay. When handcuffs are placed on an

arrestee, is it possible for them to become tighter just by the arrestee's own movements?

- A. Yeah. If the arrestee's really pulling away and not allowing us to, you know, carefully handcuff him, naturally, the handcuffs are going to continue to tighten until we're able to calm them down. And there's a lock on the cuffs that stop -- stop them from tightening any further.
- Q. Okay. Did you use any force on him after you felt that Mr. Powell was no longer a threat?
- A. Like, after we stood him up?
- Q. Correct.

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- 14 A. After we stood him up, no.
 - Q. And at any point during that evening or the early-morning hours, did you use hand strikes on him?
- 18 **A.** No.
 - Q. Did you use knee strikes on him?
- 20 **A.** No.
- 21 Q. Did you use any less-than-lethal
- 22 tactics on him?
- 23 **A.** No.

Wise - D'Agostino - 08/16/23 74 1 Q. Did you observe any of your fellow officers use hand strikes? 2 3 Α. No. Did you observe any of your fellow 4 5 officers use knee strikes? 6 Α. No. 7 Did you observe any of your fellow Q. officers use less-than-lethal tactics on him? 8 9 Α. No. And you indicated that you were the 10 Q. 11 officer that called EMS, correct? 12 Α. Yes. 13 And again, why did you call EMS? 14 Α. Officer Obergfell stated that he was 15 bleeding, so I wanted to get him evaluated 16 immediately. 17 Did you cause -- did you have any reason to believe that you, during your use of 18 force, caused that bleeding on Mr. Powell? 19 20 Α. No. What did you understand caused that 21 Q. 22 bleeding? 23 Α. Mr. Powell striking his head into the

Wise - D'Agostino - 08/16/23 75 1 ground. Q. And when you and your fellow officers 3 took him to the ground, did you have any indication or belief that he was going to start banging his 4 head on the ground? 5 6 Α. No. 7 Were you involved in his transportation to the jail after he was placed in the back of the 8 vehicle? 10 No. Officer Obergfell was. Α. 11 Q. Okay. And when you arrived at the 12 facility, were you involved in removing him from 13 the vehicle? 14 Α. No. 15 Okay. Were you present when EMS Q. 16 responded to the jail? 17 Α. Yes. 18 And do you recall Mr. Powell's interactions with EMS? 19 20 He was hostile with them. He wasn't 21 initially letting them check on him. 22 Are you a medical health professional?

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A.

No.

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- Q. Are you a mental health professional?
- 2 **A.** No.

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- Q. Does EMS have any say in terms of whether an individual is transported for mental health evaluation?
- A. Typically, it's just going to be if there's a medical reason.
- Q. So if EMS felt that he needed to be evaluated, would he have been taken to the hospital?
- 11 **A.** Yes.
- Q. And do you recall at what point you completed the 9.41?
- A. As we completed all of the paperwork, I

 advised the jailer that he was going to be a 9.41.

 So he knew that the paper would be coming back, but

 we just completed all the paperwork together

 following the arrest.
 - Q. And did you complete the 9.41 because you were concerned about his behavior?
 - A. Yes.
- Q. And were you disciplined as a result of this incident?

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           Α.
                No.
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           MS. D'AGOSTINO: I don't have any further
   questions.
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           MR. ZACCAGNINO: I don't have anything
   further.
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           (Deposition concluded at 2:17 p.m.)
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         I hereby CERTIFY that I have read the
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   foregoing 77 pages, and that they are a true and
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   accurate transcript of the testimony given by me in
4
   the above entitled action on August 16, 2023.
5
6
7
                             Kevin Wise
8
9
   Sworn to before me this
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   ----, 2023.
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   NOTARY PUBLIC.
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   STATE OF NEW YORK)
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         I DO HEREBY CERTIFY as a Notary Public in and
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   for the State of New York, that I did attend and
   report the foregoing deposition, which was taken
   down by me in a verbatim manner by means of machine
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   shorthand. Further, that the deposition was then
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   reduced to writing in my presence and under my
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   direction.
              That the deposition was taken to be
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   used in the foregoing entitled action. That the
13
   said deponent, before examination, was duly sworn
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   to testify to the truth, the whole truth and
15
   nothing but the truth, relative to said action.
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                           PATRICK MCLAUGHLIN,
                           Notary Public.
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